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COUNSELOR CONNECTION

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What's New? 2003-2004 KHEAA Publications—In Color.

The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) and The Student Loan PeopleSM are proud to announce the new, color versions of **Getting In**, **Getting Ready**, **Getting Set**, and **Getting Started**.

Getting In has retained all the qualities that has made it such a help for students preparing for college but is now in color and written in a more student-friendly manner.

Getting Ready is a new publication aimed at high school juniors to help them prepare early for college. It contains some of the information from the STEP for Juniors publication, plus it's been expanded to include information that will help juniors develop an interest in furthering their education.

Getting Set and *Getting Started* replace the STEP for Sophomores and Freshmen, respectively. The goal of these two publications is to start students thinking about college and what they need to do to be ready.

The publications are being sent directly to counselors for distribution to students. We ask that you distribute to all students, not just those who are college-bound.

Affording Higher Education has once again been expanded and now includes more than 3,200 financial aid programs available to Kentucky students. There is a copy of *Affording Higher Education* included with this *Counselor Connection*. These publications are not

distributed to students but will be available at high school and public libraries and financial aid offices. *Affording Higher Education* can also be found on the KHEAA Web site at www.kheaa.com.

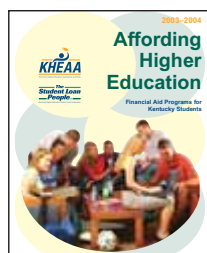
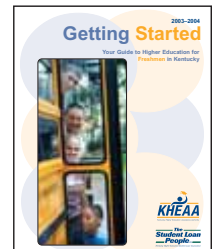
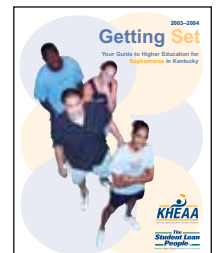
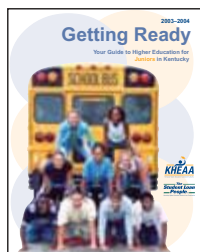
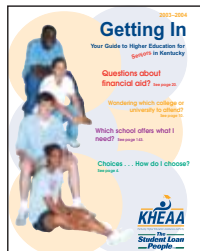
If you need additional copies of any of these publications, you may contact Hilda Long at the KHEAA address or number on the front page. These publications are also available on KHEAA's Web site www.kheaa.com.

We'd like to know what you think of the changes we've made to our publications. Please feel free to contact us at KHEAA by e-mail, phone, or mail (see page 1).

A Photo Shoot and a Scholarship ... Sound Intriguing?

Students from Danville High School are featured on the covers of this year's publications. Students from your school have a chance to be featured on next year's covers and inside the book—and one of your juniors may win a \$500 college scholarship. Here's how it works:

KHEAA will award a \$500 scholarship, usable at the Kentucky college of the winner's choice, to the junior who does the best job of telling us why his or her high school is the best in the state. In addition, someone from KHEAA will come to that school to take pictures for use in KHEAA publications. Entries must be no longer than 100 words. They can be mailed to Tim Ballard, KHEAA, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602-0798, faxed to Tim's attention at 502/696-7373, or e-mailed to tballard@kheaa.com. The deadline for receiving entries is November 1.



KHEAA Programs Update

- ✍ Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES), the Kentucky Tuition Grant (KTG) and the College Access Program (CAP) Grant can now be used by students who are majoring in theology, divinity, or religious education at colleges and universities that do not have programs comprised solely of sectarian instruction.
- ✍ KEES will be fully funded for the 2003–2004 academic year. A KEES study is being performed by the Interim Joint Committee on Education.
- ✍ High school seniors graduating in December of their final year of high school are now eligible for KEES upon completion of at least three courses of study.



The Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship is now administered by KHEAA. This scholarship provides up to \$1,500 per year scholarships to academically talented high school seniors and GED recipients who show promise of continued excellence in postsecondary education. The award amounts are contingent upon federal funding. To find out more about this scholarship, call Amy Sword at 1-800-928-8926.



Posters and Web Sites . . . Good Ways to Promote Higher Education

Also included with this *Counselor Connection* are posters promoting our different publications.

Please display these posters where they will catch your students' eyes.

Your students can find a lot of financial aid information on our Web sites—www.kheaa.com and www.studentloanpeople.com. If your school's Web site isn't linked to ours, please ask your technology coordinator to set up links to KHEAA and The Student Loan Peoplesm.



Counselor Workshop

The College Board will host a workshop for counselors at the University Club on the University of Louisville campus from 9 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, October 1.



KHEAA and The Student Loan People publish the Counselor Connection to share information about student financial aid, college preparation and college planning. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Please send them to tballard@kheaa.com.

KHEAA and The Student Loan People do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodations to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in all programs and activities. Printed with state funds.

WARN

YOUR STUDENTS ABOUT FINANCIAL AID SCAMS

Make sure that your students are aware that there are companies who will try to entice students and their parents to pay for financial aid help that can be obtained for free.

The Federal Trade Commission warns students to be wary of scholarship search companies that make any of these claims.

"You've been selected by a national foundation to receive a scholarship."

"We'll do all the work"

"The scholarship is guaranteed or your money back."

"You can't get this information anywhere else."

Getting In for seniors and *Getting Ready* for juniors, published by KHEAA and The Student Loan People, contain tips on how to avoid being scammed by a fraudulent scholarship search company as well as information on how to conduct a financial aid search for free. *Getting In* also contains Web sites that offer free information about college, financial aid and career planning.

KHEAA Announces New KEES Coordinator



Rebecca Gilpatrick has been promoted to KEES Coordinator in the Student Aid Branch, replacing Tim Phelps, who now coordinates KHEAA State Grant programs. Becky received her bachelor's degree from Georgetown College in 1994. She joined

KHEAA in 1995 and most recently served as Student Financial Assistance Program Coordinator in the Policy and Client Services Branch. The Student Aid Branch is excited to have Becky working with the KEES program. Becky can be reached at (502) 696-7394 or at rgilpatrick@kheaa.com.

The Kentucky Advantage

The Student Loan Peoplesm announce Kentucky's first alternative loan,



the **Kentucky Advantage Loan**. This loan will help Kentucky students meet college costs that aren't covered by a school's financial aid package.

Some of the advantages of this new loan are:

- Loans are available from \$1,000 to \$20,000.
- Interest rates range from 4.75% to 11.75%.
- Low origination fees.
- Affordable monthly payments.
- Greater flexibility than traditional college loans.

For more information on this loan, go to The Student Loan People Web site at www.studentloanpeople.com and click on the icon of the Kentucky Advantage Loan logo. A brochure explaining the loan will be available soon.

Meade County Student Wins iMac

What is the one thing that a graduating senior in high school needs more than anything else when she enters college? A state-of-the-art computer. And that's just what Meade County High School student Jessica Brown received from The Student Loan People and KHEAA in August.

In February hundreds of Kentucky students entered a contest to win an iMac computer. The contest was included in *Life 101*, a newspaper distributed to all Kentucky high school seniors encouraging them to pursue a higher education and giving them helpful tips on how to do so. This year KHEAA and The Student Loan People, who have sponsored *Life 101* for three years, decided to conduct a drawing exclusively for Kentucky students. Jessica's name was drawn as the lucky winner.

"One of the key roles of both The Student Loan People and KHEAA is to get the word out to families and students that college is attainable, regardless of your background or economic situation. *Life 101* is a perfect vehicle to share this message in an entertaining, informative way that high school students can relate to," said Meredith Robinson, The Student Loan People's senior marketing representative.

The presentation of the iMac took place at Meade County High School, with participation by Meade



(L to R) Meade County High School Guidance Counselor Matt Spencer, graduating senior Jessica Brown and Principal Bill Adams are all proud that a Meade County High School student won the iMac in the *Life 101* drawing.

County High School Principal Bill Adams, Guidance Counselor Matt Spencer, and Jessica's parents.

"We are strong advocates for higher education and are very pleased that The Student Loan People and KHEAA sponsored both *Life 101* and this drawing," Adams said. "*Life 101* provides a wealth of information to our students, and winning the iMac couldn't have happened to a nicer, more qualified person than Jessica. She will certainly put it to good use as she begins her college career at Elizabethtown Community College."

KASFAA Workshops

KHEAA will participate in the fall series of High School Counselor Training Workshops, coordinated by the Kentucky Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (KASFAA). Middle school, high school, vocational education and vocational rehabilitation counselors are invited to attend any of the nine free, one-day training workshops focusing on college financial aid programs and other important student services. Each participant will receive a certificate of attendance for six hours of credit applicable toward Instructional Leadership Training requirements.

Registration packets will be mailed in late September. If you do not get a registration packet, you can register online at www.kasfaa.com.

KHEAA will provide an update on the KEES program as well as information about other KHEAA student aid programs and services.

The following organizations are contributing their resources and personnel to provide informative and worthwhile sessions: ACT, KASFAA, KDE, and KHEAA. Host colleges and financial institutions are also contributing.

The workshops, which begin at 7:30 a.m. and end at 3:15 p.m., are scheduled for:

November 5	Murray State University
November 6	Madisonville Community College
November 11	Morehead State University
November 12	Prestonsburg Community College
November 13	Union College
November 18	Western Kentucky University
November 19	University of Louisville
November 20	Thomas More College
November 21	Georgetown College